

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 2696 - SB 2624**

February 16, 2022

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Prohibits state and local law enforcement agencies from participating in a firearm buyback program in which the amount of cash or the value of the item being offered in exchange for the firearm is less than 75 percent of fair market value of the firearm being surrendered. Requires the proceeds of a sale of any firearm surrendered to a law enforcement agency through a buyback program to be used to provide firearm safety instruction to the public, minus any proceeds that are distributed in accordance with any other current statute.

Authorizes state and local law enforcement agencies to accept donations of money, gift certificates, prepaid cards, and other items of value and give them to an individual who participates in firearm safety instruction.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**NOT SIGNIFICANT**

Assumptions:

- Based on information previously provided by the Department of Safety and Homeland Security (DOS), the department has never participated in a firearm buyback program, and does not do so currently; therefore, any fiscal impact to DOS is estimated to be not significant.
- Based on information provided by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI), the proposed legislation will have no fiscal impact on the TBI.
- It is unknown how many local law enforcement agencies currently participate in firearm buyback programs, or how many may do so in the future.
- Firearms buyback programs in the cities of Memphis and Nashville in recent years have offered gas and grocery gift cards in the range of \$50-\$100 in exchange for each firearm surrendered, with Kroger and Mapco among the event sponsors.
- The value of those items is assumed in most cases to be less than the 75 percent of fair market value for firearms surrendered as required by the proposed legislation. Thus, if those departments pursued firearms buyback programs in the future, it is estimated they would incur an increase in expenditures related to those programs.
- It is assumed that other local agencies have pursued similar programs.

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- However, the proposed legislation is permissive in that the agencies have the option to not conduct such firearm buyback programs and avoid any increase in expenditures as a result.
- Therefore, any fiscal impact to state or local law enforcement agencies related to firearms buyback programs is estimated to be not significant.
- Accepting various donations to be provided to individuals as incentive to participate in firearm safety instruction will have no significant fiscal impact on state or local law enforcement agencies.
- It is unclear precisely how the firearm safety instruction incentive program is intended to work. It is assumed that individuals would provide proof of completion of a firearm safety course to a law enforcement agency and then receive one of the various items of value in return. Such a program is not estimated to have a significant fiscal impact on state or local law enforcement agencies.
- The proposed legislation is not estimated to result in a significant increase in revenue due to the sale of surrendered firearms.
- Any fiscal impact to state or local law enforcement agencies is estimated to be not significant.

#### **CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

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